

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. From 1932 until World War II, the firm of Iosef Savizki of Sofia acted as agents for Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge, De Soto, and Fargo. During this period it sold approximately 2,000 vehicles, three-fourths of which were 3-ton and 5-ton trucks. These vehicles have now been taken over by government organizations. With the outbreak of the war, the import of American automobiles stopped; the contract was not renewed after the war, and the firm's business shifted to repairs.

2. The Saviaki firm owns a garage at No. 68 Simion I Street in Sofia. This plant is equipped with modern machinery

3. The firm, which employs approximately 16 men, has not yet been nationalized; in January 1952, however, all of its machinery was removed. Some of the equipment was sent to the Ministry of Transportation, and the valve-grinding machine was taken over by the Army which also owns the only other similar grinding machine in Bulgaria. After its machinery was requisitioned, the firm bought old machinery

4. One of the largest automobile repair shops in Bulgaria is the 9 September Plant (formerly the Engineers' Workshop), which also produces all kinds of spare parts and bus bodies. This factory is located on the Sofia-Knyazhevo highway, opposite the Lagera (sic) stop of the streetcar line. In 1952, this plant attempted to build trucks, but the attempt was abandoned because the local product was about 10 times as expensive as the ZIS or Molotov trucks. Only overhauls and repairs are now carried out at this workshop.

5. A new factory, located adjacent to the 9 September Plant, went into production in 1951 and produces electric streetcars and buses. The electric motors are produced by the Elprom electrical enterprise.

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6. The new Vulko Chervenkov automobile factory, located approximately 300 meters from the Iskur railroad station at Sofia, was opened in February 1952. All its equipment was imported from the USSR, and the enterprise was immediately turned over to the military authorities. Because of a lack of raw material, no new automobiles have yet been produced and the factory carries out repairs only.
7. The USSR supplies Bulgaria with a large number of ZIS trucks and sufficient spare parts for their maintenance. Most of the trucks are used by the Army.
8. Gasoline was rationed in late 1951 after having been in short supply for two years. Since then, many automobiles have been rebuilt to run on coal or wood-burning gas generators (sic) which were imported during the war.

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